

Small Unit Riverine Craft (SURC)

Description

The SURC will provide tactical mobility and a limited weapons platform for the GCE in a riverine environment. Each craft will move an infantry squad of 13 Marines. It will replace the outdated fleet of Rigid Raiding Craft (RRC), which were not originally designed to operate in a riverine environment. SURC is envisioned to have an inboard engine and its water jet propulsion system will meet the Marine Corps safety requirements.

Operational Impact

The U.S. Marine Corps has a need to conduct raids, reinforcement, reconnaissance and surveillance, deception, show-of-force, security, peacekeeping, counter-drug, and Noncombatant Evacuation operations in a riverine environment. Areas dominated by river networks coincide with population centers around the world. An ability to exploit the river networks, as an avenue of approach, is important. Several characteristics of rivers dictate the use of a shallow draft watercraft. The SURC, escorted by the Riverine Assault Craft, will allow the Marine Corps to conduct operations in this environment. Additionally, the SURC will assist in denying the enemy's use of the river areas. The SURC will replace the RRC which has reached the end of its service life and was not originally purchased for operations in a riverine environment.

Program Status

Completed Milestone A on 9 Jul 97. Phase A activities have focused on market research, technology evaluation, and concept exploration. During FY02, the SURC will go to a combined Milestone B/C, award a contract for an initial order of test craft, and conduct developmental testing. Operational testing will be conducted in FY03. Following successful OT&E and FRP approval, a contract option for production craft will be exercised in FY03.

Procurement Profile	FY02	FY03
Quantity:	0	24

Developer/Manufacturer TBD